Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/gene-luen-yang (LinkedIn)
www.geneluenyang.com (Company)
www.firstsecondbooks.com (Company)

Top Skills

Creative Writing
Teaching
Public Speaking

Publications

Level Up
Boxers & Saints
American Born Chinese
Avatar: The Last Airbender - The Graphic Novel Series
The Eternal Smile: Three Stories

Gene Yang

Cartoonist & Teacher
San Jose, California, United States

Summary

Gene Luen Yang writes, and sometimes draws, comic books and graphic novels. As the Library of Congress' fifth National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, he advocates for the importance of reading, especially reading diversely. American Born Chinese, his first graphic novel from First Second Books, was a National Book Award finalist, as well as the winner of the Printz Award and an Eisner Award. His two-volume graphic novel Boxers & Saints won the L.A. Times Book Prize and was a National Book Award Finalist. His other works include Secret Coders (with Mike Holmes), The Shadow Hero (with Sonny Liew), Superman from DC Comics (with various artists), and the Avatar: The Last Airbender series from Dark Horse Comics (with Gurihiru). In 2016, he was named a MacArthur Foundation Fellow. His most recent books are Dragon Hoops from First Second Books and Superman Smashes the Klan from DC Comics.

Experience

Self-Employed
Cartoonist
August 1996 - Present (29 years 5 months)

Write and illustrate award-winning graphic novels for First Second Books, DC Comics, Dark Horse Comics, SLG Publishing, Marvel Comics, Image Comics, and Pauline Books and Media.

Disney+
Executive Producer
November 2021 - January 2024 (2 years 3 months)

Served as Executive Producer on the Disney+ adaptation of my 2006 graphic novel American Born Chinese

Hamline University
Creative Writing Faculty
July 2012 - December 2021 (9 years 6 months)

Saint Paul, Minnesota

Taught graphic novel writing as part of low-residency Writing for Children and Young Adults program.

Library of Congress
National Ambassador for Young People's Literature
January 2016 - December 2017 (2 years)

Promoted reading through speaking engagements and the Reading Without Walls program in partnership with the Library of Congress, the Children's Book Council, and Every Child A Reader.

Bishop O'Dowd High School
Director of Information Services/Computer Science Teacher
January 1998 - June 2015 (17 years 6 months)

Managed student information system. Taught college-level programming courses in C++, C, and Java. Developed curricula for all Information Technology courses.

Third Strand
Software Developer
May 1999 - August 2001 (2 years 4 months)

Designed and implemented web-based database applications using ASP, HTML, SQL, and Microsoft Access. Consulted with clients on project plan and design.

Videosoft
Software Developer
August 1995 - December 1997 (2 years 5 months)

Designed and implemented database applications, graphical user interfaces, and ActiveX components using Visual Basic, SQL, and Access. Wrote technical articles for trade journals, manuals, and online help. Maintained company website.

Education

California State University, Hayward
Masters, Education · (June 2001 - June 2003)

University of California, Berkeley
Bachelors, Computer Science · (August 1991 - May 1995)